

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA
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AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 1666

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ET, CU
SUBJ: CASTRO VISIT TO ETHIOPIA - IV

REF: ADDIS ABABA 1600 AND PREVIOUS

1. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF JOINT ETHIOPIAN-CUBAN
COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING CASTRO VISIT: "AT INVITATION OF
LTCOL MENGISTU HAILE-MARIAN, CHAIRMAN OF PROVISIONAL
MILITARY ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA,
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COMRADE FIDEL CASTRO, CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT
AND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND SECRETARY-GENERAL OF
COMMUNIST PARTY OF CUBA, ACCOMPANIED BY SENIOR
OFFICIALS, PAID A STATE AND FRIENDLY VISIT TO ETHIOPIA
FROM 14-17 MARCH 1977.

"A SERIES OF DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD BETWEEN TWO

LEADERS IN ATMOSPHERE CHARACTERIZED BY FRATERNAL SENTIMENTS. THEY EXAMINED CURRENT INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND ASSESSED WITH SATISFACTION FAST-GROWING TIES BETWEEN CUBA AND ETHIOPIA.

"BOTH SIDES AGREED FORCES OF INTERNATIONAL IMPERIALISM AND REACTION, WITH VIEW TO HINDERING INTERNATIONAL DETENTE THAT HELPS CAUSE OF PEACE, ARE CREATING HOT BEDS OF TENSION AND CONFLICT ALL OVER WORLD. BOTH SIDES REAFFIRMED THEIR COMMITMENT TO OPPOSE VEHEMENTLY THEIR EVIL MACHINATIONS.

"BOTH SIDES EXPRESS FULL SUPPORT FOR UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS IN ACCORDANCE WITH RELEVANT DECISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES.

"THERE WAS COMPLETE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES AS REGARDS RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND HOMELAND, AS WELL AS IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAEL FROM ARAB TERRITORIES WHICH IT HAS OCCUPIED.

"BOTH SIDES CONDEMNED APARTHEID REGIME OF SOUTH AFRICA AND REAFFIRMED THEIR TOTAL SUPPORT FOR LIBERATION MOVEMENTS WHO ARE WAGING DAILY STRUGGLE AGAINST THIS ODIOSUS SYSTEM AND WITH VIEW TO ESTABLISHING MAJORITY RULE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

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"CONCERNING NAMIBIA, BOTH SIDES EMPHASIZED NEED TO IMPLEMENT DECISIONS OF U.N. AND TO TRANSFER POWERS OF GOVERNMENT TO LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF NAMIBIAN PEOPLE, SWAPO, WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.

"THE TWO PARTIES EXPRESSED GRAVE CONCERN OVER INTRANSIGENCE OF THE ILLEGAL REGIME OF IAN SMITH AND DELAYING TACTICS OF IMPERIALISM IN ZIMBABWE. CONSIDERING SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA, NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE ARE SUCH THAT THEY ARE NOT AMENABLE TO POLITICAL SOLUTIONS, BOTH SIDES AGREED TO STEP UP THEIR ASSISTANCE TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS.

"TWO SIDES NOTED WITH SATISFACTION FACT THAT FRANCE'S LAST COLONY IN AFRICA, DJIBOUTI, IS ON THRESHOLD OF INDEPENDENCE.

"THEY CONDEMNED EXPLOITATION AND HUMILIATION WHICH ARE DAILY INFLICTED UPON PEOPLES OF LATIN AMERICAN BY

IMPERIALISM AND EXPRESSED THEIR UNRESERVED SUPPORT FOR ALL PROGRESSIVE FORCES IN LATIN AMERICA, AND ESPECIALLY THOSE IN CHILE WHO ARE FIGHTING AGAINST THE FASCIST JUNTA FOR JUSTICE AND FREEDOM.

"THEY REAFFIRMED THEIR CONVICTION THAT NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENTS IS POSITIVE FACTOR, WHICH CONTRIBUTES TO ESTABLISHMENT OF LASTING PEACE AND TO ACCELERATION OF PROCESS OF NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, AND WHICH DESERVES DEDICATED SUPPORT OF ALL PROGRESSIVE AND PEACE-LOVING PEOPLES.

"ON BILATERAL LEVEL, TWO SIDES EXPRESSED GRATIFICATION AT PACE AT WHICH ETHIO-CUBAN RELATIONSHIP IS DEVELOPING AND THEIR DETERMINATION TO DEEPEN AND STRENGTHEN THESE RELATIONS IN ALL FIELDS.

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"REAFFIRMING SOLIDARITY OF CUBAN PEOPLE WITH PEOPLE OF ETHIOPIA, CUBAN SIDE EXPRESSED ADMIRATION AND SUPPORT FOR ANTI-FEUDAL, ANTI-IMPERIALIST AND SOCIALIST STAND OF ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE. CONDEMNING THE INTERFERENCE IN ETHIOPIA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS BY IMPERIALIST AND REACTIONARY STATES, CUBAN SIDE ALSO REAFFIRMED TOTAL SUPPORT FOR ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION.

"THEY DISCUSSED COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES OF IMPERIALISM AND ITS PUPPETS IN RED SEA REGION AND EXPRESSED NEED FOR PROGRESSIVE FORCES IN THE AREA TO CO-ORDINATE THEIR STRUGGLE AGAINST MACHINATIONS OF THEIR COMMON ENEMY, IMPERIALISM. FURTHER, THE TWO SIDES EMPHASIZED THAT PEACE OF THE REGION REQUIRES THAT INDIAN OCEAN REMAIN ZONE OF PEACE.

"BOTH SIDES CONDEMNED THE RACIST AND IMPERIALIST CONSPIRACY AGAINST HEROIC PEOPLES OF ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE AND PLEDGED TOTAL SUPPORT FOR BOTH COUNTRIES.

"COLONEL MENGISTU HAILE-MARIAM, CHAIRMAN OF THE PMAC, ACCEPTED COMRADE CASTRO'S INVITATION TO VISIT CUBA."

2. COMMENT: ADDRESSEES WILL NOTE PASSAGES TO EFFECT OF "DETERMINATION TO DEEPEN AND STRENGTHEN BILATERAL RELATIONS IN ALL FIELDS," AND CUBAN REAFFIRMATION OF "TOTAL SUPPORT FOR ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION". WE INTERPRET THESE PASSAGES AS INDICATION OF POSSIBLE INCREASE IN CUBAN ASSISTANCE FOR EPMG. PASSAGES WITH RESPECT TO NEED FOR PROGRESSIVE FORCES IN AREA TO COORDINATE THEIR STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND ON INDIAN

OCEAN AS ZONE OF PEACE ARE SUPPORTIVE OF CONCEPT OF
PROPOSED UNION BETWEEN ETHIOPIA, SOMALIA, SOUTH YEMEN
AND INDEPENDENT DJIBOUTI (REFTEL), AS WELL AS CASTRO'S
REPORTED ATTEMPT TO MEDIATE ETHIO-SOMALI DIFFERENCES.
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